

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-17, 21 and 23-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 28 and 30-32 are amended for clarity and for reasons unrelated to patentability.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claims 1-9, 11-17, 21 and 23-27 are allowed and that claims 29 and 33 contain allowable subject matter.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the amendments: a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth below; b) do not raise any new reasons that require further search and/or consideration; and/or c) place the application in better form for an appeal should an appeal be necessary. More specifically, the above amendments are merely for clarity and consistency. Thus, entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The Office Action rejects claims 28 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent U.S. Patent 6,369,840 to Barnett et al. (hereafter Barnett) in view of U.S. Patent 5,991,832 to Sato. The Office Action also rejects claims 30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Barnett in view Sato and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,151,059 to Schein et al. (hereafter Schein). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 28 recites displaying a consecutive reservation indicator on a prescribed portion of the corresponding selected event, the consecutive reservation indicator indicating that the user has previously selected a consecutive reservation on the reservation confirmation screen.

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In rejecting independent claim 28, the Office Action cites Barnett's Figure 9 and item 904 for features relating to the consecutive reservation indicator. However, box 904 does not correspond to a consecutive reservation that has been made. Rather, it appears that Barnett's box 904 merely corresponds to a box that a user can click on in order to add events to a personal calendar. This does not teach or suggest any type of consecutive reservation. For example, the present specification (at page 12, lines 6-15) specifically discusses one example in which the consecutive recording indication is an arrow 116 that indicates whether to perform consecutive recording (such as recording a program from 10 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. every day from June 1st to June 7th). In other words, the consecutive reservation may refer to consecutive days that may be recorded for a particular program. Barnett's box 904 does not relate to a consecutive reservation. Sato does not teach or suggest the features of independent claim 28 missing from Barnett. Accordingly, independent claim 28 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 31 defines patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons. That is, independent claim 31 recites displaying a consecutive reservation indicator on a prescribed portion of a selected program, where the consecutive reservation indicator indicating that a user has previously selected a consecutive reservation on the reservation confirmation screen.

Claims 29 and 30 depend from claim 28 and claims 32-33 depend from claim 31 and therefore define patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims also recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references. For example, dependent claim 30 (and similarly dependent claim 32) recites displaying the consecutive reservation indicator further comprises displaying a separate symbol on a lower

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portion of the portion where the separate symbol crosses into a different time zone. In addressing dependent claim 30, the Office Action relies on Schein's Figures 24 and 25 and element 208. However, there is no suggestion in Schein for a consecutive reservation, a consecutive reservation indicator or a consecutive reservation indicator that includes displaying a separate symbol on a lower portion of the portion where the separate symbol crosses into a different time zone. In Schein's Figures 24 and 25, element 208 does not cross into a different time zone nor does element 208 represent a consecutive reservation. Accordingly, dependent claims 30 and 32 define patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

CONCLUSION

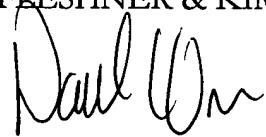
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9, 11-17, 21 and 23-33 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, David C. Oren, at the telephone number listed below.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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